

**55th Annual Meeting
of the Midwestern Legislative Conference
of
The Council of State Governments**

Marriott City Center Hotel
Minneapolis, Minnesota

August 6-9, 2000

**Resolution
Supporting
The High Speed Rail Investment Act
(S. 1900 and H.R. 3700)**

- WHEREAS,** development of high speed rail would bring jobs and infrastructure development to the Midwest while also relieving congestion and complementing air and highway travel; and
- WHEREAS,** the Midwestern Legislative Conference (MLC) has urged the federal government to work in partnership with the states to develop a high speed passenger rail network in the Midwest; and
- WHEREAS,** the MLC has further supported increased federal funding for the planning and construction of high speed rail corridors in the Midwest; and
- WHEREAS,** development of high speed rail corridors brings increased safety to rail corridors through improved signaling, grade crossings and train sets; and
- WHEREAS,** studies have shown that high speed rail is the most cost-efficient of all transportation options for travel between 100 and 500 miles; and
- WHEREAS,** the other major transportation modes have dedicated sources of funding; and
- WHEREAS,** the High Speed Rail Investment Act (S. 1900 and H.R. 3700) currently being considered by Congress would provide dedicated funding for high speed rail development through the sale of \$10 billion in high speed rail bonds between FY 2001 and 2010; and
- WHEREAS,** up to 10 percent of the funds would be available to improve non-high speed rail service; and
- WHEREAS,** the proposed High Speed Rail Investment Act enjoys wide bipartisan support; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Midwestern Legislative Conference urges Congress to act quickly and positively on this legislation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the MLC strongly supports both new and revived efforts that are taking place nationwide in the development of passenger rail; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be sent to the President of the United States; the Secretary of Transportation; the President of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak); the Federal Railroad Administrator; the Chair and Ranking Member of the U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means and the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance; Members of Congress from the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin; and Chairs and Ranking Members of Midwestern states' Transportation Committees.